



# Family Advocacy Annual Program Update 2013 Online

## Justine Ionta Family Advocacy Program Manager

Mission: USAG Picatinny Arsenal provides effective and efficient installation capabilities and services that support the Joint Center of Excellence for Armaments and Munitions enabling continued firepower dominance by the United States Military and sustaining a community in which Service Members, Families, and Civilians will thrive.

Vision: Picatinny Arsenal, recognized within IMCOM as the Army's Home in Northern New Jersey and a Team of professionals, provides consistent, quality services and infrastructure that are force multipliers in supported organization mission accomplishment and materially enhance Service Member, Family, and Civilian well-being and readiness.

#### The Army's Home in Northern New





#### The Family Advocacy Program

#### Family Advocacy Program (FAP)

A program designed to address prevention, identification, evaluation, treatment, rehabilitation, follow-up, and reporting of family violence. FAPs consist of coordinated efforts designed to prevent and intervene in cases of family distress, and to promote healthy family life.

#### **Program Services include:**

- Prevention Efforts
- Early Identification
  - Intervention
- Support for Victims
- Treatment for Abusers





#### **FAP Services Eligibility Criteria**

- Married military couples presenting with an incident
- Non-married couples with one military member that share a child in common
- Former spouse of military member
- Current or former intimate partner (with one military member) with whom the abuser shares or have shared a common dwelling
- Self referred military couple with no reported incident

ONE MEMBER MUST ALWAYS BE MILITARY





#### **Understanding Domestic Violence**

**Domestic abuse** usually involves a pattern of violence and emotional and verbal abuse. Besides physical abuse, abusers may hurt their victims and maintain control over them using insults, put-downs, public humiliation and name calling. Or they may threaten violence, suicide, financial deprivation or to take away the children. These tactics are meant to silence victims so that they're afraid to seek help. Underlying all domestic abuse is the abuser's need to feel powerful and in control of another person's behavior and actions.

Although the **Department of Defense** has made it clear that domestic abuse within military families is not acceptable and will not be tolerated, abuse continues to damage military families. While being in the military **does not** cause abuse, the demands of military life may increase the risk of domestic abuse within some families. These demands include:

- 1. High levels of stress created by the cycle of deployment and reintegration
- 2. Frequent relocation that separates military families from social support systems

  Justine Ionta, FAPM (973)724-3568(DSN

880)/justine.r.gnta. Economic dependence of many military spouses





#### **Domestic Violence**

An offense under the United States Code, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or State law involving the use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence against a person, or the violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person, who is:

- 1. A current or former spouse.
- 2. A person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or
- 3. A current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.





#### **Domestic Abuse**

Domestic Violence or a pattern of behavior resulting in emotional/psychological abuse, economic control, and/or interference with personal liberty that is directed toward a person, who is:

- 1. A current or former spouse.
- 2. A person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or
- 3. A current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

(DoDI 6400.06, Domestic Abuse Involving DoD Military and Certain Affiliated Personnel,





# Iwo Types of Domestic Violence Reporting

#### 1. FAP Unrestricted Reporting Option:

Incident is presented to the Case Review Committee (CRC). Reported through the chain of command

#### 2. FAP Restricted Reporting Option (RRO):

Restricted reports are **not** brought forward to the CRC and not reported to the chain of command

#### Specific qualifiers exist for the RRO





#### **Unrestricted Reports**

- Law Enforcement is the 24/7 Reporting <u>Point of Contact</u> (RPOC). Law Enforcement can be reached at: 973-724-7273 (PAPD)/ 6666.
- The Family Advocacy Program Manger (FAPM) is contacted by the RPOC. The FAPM can be reach at (973) 724-3568.





#### **DV Restricted Report Option (RRO)**

#### A Restricted Report can be made to:

- The Family Advocacy Program Manager (FAPM)
- Victim Advocate (VA)

Healthcare Provider (including FAP clinical social workers and their supervisors)





# **DV Unrestricted Reporting DoD favored option**

## Allows victim to receive: Protective services

#### **Victim services include:**

- Medical treatment
- A forensic examination
- Advocacy services
- Clinical counseling
- Pastoral Counseling
- Offender accountability





#### **Restricted Reporting**

#### **Prevents:**

- Law enforcement involvement
- Orders of protection
- Command involvement

#### **Purpose:**

- Allows the victim to control the release of information.
- Maintains anonymity.
- Creates planning time.





#### Referrals

- Services are dependent upon the reporting option selection and the status
   of the victim. FAP provides short term intervention.
- More extensive services may require use of

TRICARE for DEERS enrollee's or for Non-DEERS are referral to their insurance provider or community onta, FAPM (F.S.S.Q.U.r.Ces.





#### **Community Victim Advocacy Services**

- Safety planning, follow-up services, support including appropriate referrals.
- Accompaniments, upon request, to medical,
   legal/court, and chain of command appointments.
- Linkages to education and awareness training.





# Domestic Violence Victim Advocacy Services

**DV VA** services are available from Jersey Battered Women's Service.

Child victims receive advocacy from the New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services.





# **DV Restricted Reporting Option Requirements**

RRO limits communications to those in the protective sphere. It is negated if the victim

discusses the domestic abuse incident to the

offender or other mandated reporter or if children

were present during at the time of the incident. The

RRO does not change the obligation for mandated





# FASOR Definition Adult (Intimate Partner) Physical Abuse

A. The non-accidental use of physical force. Physical force includes, but is not limited to, pushing; shoving; slapping; grabbing; poking; hair-pulling; scratching; pinching; restraining; shaking; throwing; biting; kicking; hitting with fist; hitting with a stick, strap, or other object; scalding; burning; poisoning; stabbing; applying force to throat; cutting off air supply; holding under water; using a weapon.





# FASOR Definition Adult (Intimate Partner) Physical Abuse

- B. Significant impact on the intimate partner involving ANY of the following:
  - 1. Any physical injury (including, but not limited to, pain that lasts at least four hours, bruises, cuts, sprains, broken bones, loss of consciousness).
  - 2. Reasonable potential for more than inconsequential physical injury given the degree of force used and the physical environment in which acts occurred.

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#### **Signs of Domestic Violence**

- Fear of one's spouse or of ending the relationship
- Physical abuse, including grabbing, pinching, shoving or hitting
- Emotional abuse (put-downs, embarrassment, or humiliation in private or in front of others)
- Social isolation (not being allowed to see or talk to relatives or friends)
- Threats of violence against the victim, the victim's children or people the victim loves
- Unexplained bruises or injuries
- Increased or unexplained absences from work
- Harassing phone calls at work or at home
- Withdrawal from friends, family or fellow service members



# Common Misconceptions of Domestic Abuse

- Men are always the abuser.
- Women are always the victim.
- Domestic violence occurs in only certain ethnic, racial, or socioeconomic groups.
- Strong religious beliefs will prevent battering.
- "Battered women" are usually uneducated and have few job skills.
- Drinking and/or drug abuse cause battering.
- A batterer does not love their partner.





#### **Duluth Model**







#### **Modified Duluth Model**

#### MILITARY POWER AND CONTROL WHEEL



Produced end distributed by:



NATIONAL CENTER on Domestic and Sexual Violence

freining conventions advances 4612 Shool Creek Blvd. Austin, 'Axas TATAG 512 467 8630 (phone and fast) www.nddx.prg

Developed from: Demostic Abuse Intervention Project 202 Earl Superfor Street Drawn, EVS 558002 218,722,4134

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# **Child Exposure to Domestic Violence**

- Exposing a child to incident(s) of domestic violence
- may fall under *child emotional abuse* or *child*
- neglect, depending on the level of exposure and
- nature of the incident(s). Some incidents may
- qualify for one or both types of allegation(s).





#### **Child Exposure to Domestic Violence**

Child neglect (exposure to physical hazards) would

generally include a child witnessing and directly

involved in a domestic incident with actual or

potential for injury to the child.

Child emotional abuse would include a child exposed to environments with domestic violence,

primarily verbal, which impact the child's

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#### **Four Types of Child Abuse**



Physical/Maltreatm ent

Sexual

**Emotional** 

**Neglect** 

202 East Superior Street Duluth, Minnesota 55802 218-722-2781 www.duluth-model.org





#### **Defining Child Abuse**

The DoD defines child abuse as injury to, maltreatment of, or neglect of a child so that the child's welfare is harmed or threatened. For the FAP to be involved, alleged victims of child abuse or neglect must be under age eighteen or, if older, be incapable of self-support due to physical or mental incapacity and in the legal care of a service member or military family member. Child abuse generally falls into one of the following four categories:

- Neglect. This includes the failure to provide for a child's basic needs.
- Physical abuse. This is defined as physical harm to a child by actions such as punching, beating, kicking, biting, shaking, throwing, stabbing, choking, hitting or burning.
- **Sexual abuse.** This includes sexual activity toward or involving a child.
- **Emotional abuse.** This includes a pattern of behaviors that Justine Ionta, FAPM (haye-an egative effect on the child's psychological well-being, 880)/justine.r.ionta.ctr@mail.milliding constant criticism, threats and rejection.





#### Child Abuse: Who is Most at Risk?

There is no definite way to determine if a child will be abused, as every family situation is different. For example, a single, young mother with very little support might be an extremely attentive and devoted parent, or she might become overwhelmed with the responsibilities of parenting alone.

- Although there is no definitive checklist, the following circumstances could put a child at greater risk for abuse:
- 1. Infants born prematurely with ongoing health problems.
- 2. Infants exposed to drugs or alcohol while in the womb. This puts a child at greater risk for further abuse after birth.
- 3. Young, isolated parents separated from their extended families and lacking other social support.
- 4. Families with continued or severe financial, housing or employment problems.
- **5. Families under extreme stress.** Mental illness, deployments, highly demanding jobs and other situations can subject families to excessive and ongoing stress.





# **FASOR Definition Child Physical Abuse**

 A. The non-accidental use of physical force on the part of a child's caregiver. Physical force includes, but is not limited to, spanking with hand; dropping; pushing; shoving; slapping; grabbing; poking; hair-pulling, scratching; pinching; restraining; shaking; throwing; biting; kicking; hitting with fist; hitting with a stick, strap, or other object; scalding, burning; poisoning; stabbing, applying force to throat; cutting off air supply; holding under water; or using a weapon.





# **FASOR Definition Child Physical Abuse**

- B. Significant impact on the child involving ANY of the following:
  - 1. More than inconsequential physical injury.
  - Reasonable potential for more than inconsequential physical injury, given the degree of force used and the physical environment in which the acts occurred.
  - 3. More than inconsequential fear reaction.





#### AR 608-18 Reporting Requirement Child Abuse

Child abuse allegations are reported to the Picatinny

Arsenal Police for Investigation.

PAPD contacts the New Jersey
Division of Youth and Family Services
(DYFS). DYFS conducts home assessments.

Each State writes their own definitions





#### **New Jersey** Physical Abuse Citation: Ann. Stat. § 9:6-8.21

- Abused child' or 'abused or neglected child' means a child under age 18 whose parent, guardian, or other person having custody and control:
- Inflicts or allows to be inflicted upon such child physical injury by other than accidental means that causes or creates a substantial risk of death, serious or protracted disfigurement, protracted impairment of physical or emotional health, or protracted loss or impairment lonta, FAPM (Off24-tibe function of any bodily organ

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# Positive ways to engage children





## Department of the Army Domestic Violence and Child Abuse Fatality Review,

7<sup>th</sup> Annual Report June 2011

(Summary of 2009 Data)





#### **DV** and Child FAP Fatality Review

#### **Include the following:**

**Homicides** 

Suicides

Medical neglect

**Suffocations** 

**Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS)** 

**Fires** 

**Drowning** 

Child Physical Abuse, Child Neglect

Traumatic Head Injury (Shaken Baby Syndrome)





#### **Fatality Review Statistics**

- FY 04, 18 fatalities reported on 10 of 95 installations (13 children 5 adults)
- FY05, 34 fatalities reported on 10 of 95 installations (18 children 16 adults)
- FY06, 27 fatalities reported on 13 of 95 installations (12 children 15 adults)

- FY07, 26 fatalities reported on 13 of 95 installations (14 children 12 adults)
- FY08, 37 fatalities reported on 18 of 95 installations (15 children 22 adults)
- FY09, 40 fatalities on 14 of 95 installations (17 children 23 adults)





#### **Analysis of findings for 2009**

- 1 (6%) of the 17 child fatalities occurred while the Soldier was deployed.
- 12 (71%) of the 17 child fatalities involved adults
- with active substance and/or behavioral health issues.
- 14 (82%) of the 17 child fatalities were children

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#### **DV Fatalities**

5 (22%) of the 23 DV fatalities occurred within 6 months deployment/redeployment.

10 (43%) of the 23 DV fatalities contained allegations of infidelity.

9 (39%) decedents and perpetrators had a

significant behavior health history.

11 (48%) of the 23 DV fatalities involved persons involved with law enforcement prior to the fatal event.

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#### **Transitional Compensation**

- FY94 National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 103-160)
  - Provides monetary compensation and benefits for dependents of military personnel on active duty who are separated or sentenced to total forfeiture of pay and allowances for a dependent-abuse offense

TC, when approved, is available for up to 36 months. There is a required annual renewal process. The victim and sponsor may not resume living together. TC payments are managed by DFAS.





#### **Community FAP Resources**

- Jersey Battered Women's Service is the Morris County DV agency
- The New Jersey Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS)
- The Picatinny Arsenal community level two providers





#### **Phone Resources**

Military OneSource
 1-800-342-9647

- National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
- Childhelp
   800-4-A-CHILD (422-4453)





# Child Abuse and Domestic Abuse Links

- Child Welfare Information Gateway
- Children and Domestic Violence Fact Sheets
- Defense Centers of Excellence
- Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime
- Joining Forces, Joining Families
- Military OneSource Tips
- National Center on Shaken Baby Syndrome
- National Child Abuse Prevention Partner Organizations
- National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN)
- National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- National Domestic Violence Hotline
- National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV)
- National Survey of Children Exposed to Violence
- Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect: Resource Guide
- Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network (RAINN)
- Ready.gov
- Safe Kids
- United We Serve